

Listing of Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Previously Presented ) An isolated tribonectin comprising a boundary-lubricating amount of a polypeptide, said polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:1 and at least one O-linked oligosaccharide moiety, wherein the molecular weight of said tribonectin is in the range of 220-280 kDa.

2. (Previously Presented) The tribonectin of claim 1, wherein said moiety is a  $\beta(1-3)$ Gal-GalNAc moiety.

3. – 9. (Cancelled)

10. (Previously Presented) The tribonectin of claim 1, wherein said O-linked oligosaccharide moiety of said polypeptide reduces the coefficient of friction between bearing surfaces.

11. (Currently Amended) The tribonectin of claim 1, wherein said O-linked oligosaccharide moiety of said tribonectin reduces the coefficient of friction between bearing surfaces *in vitro*.

12. (Currently Amended) The tribonectin of claim 1, wherein said O-linked oligosaccharide moiety of said tribonectin reduces the coefficient of friction between bearing surfaces *in vivo*.

13. (Previously Presented) The tribonectin of claim 1, wherein addition of said tribonectin to a solution does not increase the viscosity of said solution by more than 10%.

14 – 15. (Cancelled)

16. (Previously Presented) The tribonectin of claim 1, wherein at least 10% of said tribonectin is glycosylated by said O-linked oligosaccharide moiety.

17. (Previously Presented) The tribonectin of claim 1, wherein at least 40% of said tribonectin is glycosylated by said O-linked oligosaccharide moiety.

18. - 39. (Cancelled)

40. (Previously Presented) A biocompatible composition comprising the isolated tribonectin of claim 1, wherein said composition is in the form of a film, membrane, foam, gel, or fiber.

41. - 54. (Cancelled)

55. (Previously Presented) The tribonectin of claim 1, further comprising hyaluronic acid.

56. (Currently Amended) A composition comprising a boundary-lubricating polypeptide encoded by a nucleic acid construct, said construct comprising a human megakaryocyte stimulating factor coding sequence, wherein said megakaryocyte stimulating factor coding sequence consists ~~consisting essentially~~ of exon 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6-12 of a human megakaryocyte stimulating factor gene and lacks at least one exon of said megakaryocyte stimulating factor gene.

57. (Cancelled)

58. (Currently Amended) A composition comprising a boundary-lubricating polypeptide encoded by a nucleic acid construct, said construct comprising a human megakaryocyte stimulating factor coding sequence, wherein said megakaryocyte stimulating factor coding sequence consists ~~consisting essentially~~ of exon 1, 3, and 6-12 of a human

Applicants: Jay, Gregory D.  
U.S.S.N. 09/556,246

megakaryocyte stimulating factor gene and lacks at least one exon of said megakaryocyte stimulating factor gene.

59. (Currently Amended) A composition comprising a boundary-lubricating polypeptide encoded by a nucleic acid construct, said construct comprising a human megakaryocyte stimulating factor coding sequence, wherein said megakaryocyte stimulating factor coding sequence consists ~~consisting essentially~~ of exon 1 and 6-12 of a human megakaryocyte stimulating factor gene and lacks at least one exon of said megakaryocyte stimulating factor gene.

For example, claim 56 requires a polypeptide encoded by a construct containing a megakaryocyte stimulating factor coding sequence consisting of exons 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6-12 and lacking at least one exon of the human megakaryocyte stimulating factor gene. Claim 58 requires a polypeptide encoded by a construct containing a megakaryocyte stimulating factor coding sequence consisting of exons 1, 3, and 6-12 and lacking at least one exon of the human megakaryocyte stimulating factor gene. Finally, claim 59 requires a polypeptide encoded by a construct containing a megakaryocyte stimulating factor coding sequence consisting of exons 1, and 6-12 and lacking at least one exon of the human megakaryocyte stimulating factor gene. In view of this amendment, Applicant submits that the claims no longer read on Turner's description of a full-length (12 exons) megakaryocyte stimulating factor gene.

Withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.